

**Remarks/Arguments:**

Claims 2-7, 9-11, 13, 15 and 16 are pending in the above-identified application. Claims 1, 8, 12 and 14 are cancelled, claims 2, 6, and 9-11, 13 and 14 are amended, and claims 15 and 16 are newly added. The basis for the newly added claims may be found in original claim 7.

Claims 1, 8, and 10-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Erramilli et al., "Experimental Queuing Analysis with Long-Range Dependent Packet Traffic," IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking, vol. 4, no. 2, pp. 209-233, April 1996. Claims 2-7 and 9 are objected to as being dependent upon rejected base claims, but allowable if rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the base and intervening claims. Applicants appreciate the examiner's recognition of allowable subject matter.

Accordingly, claims 1, 8, 12 and 14 are canceled, claims 2 and 6 are amended to include the limitations of their base claim 1 and claims 9 and 10 are amended to include the limitations of their base claim 8. Claims 2-7 and 9 are therefore in condition for allowance, and applicants request that the objection to these claims be withdrawn.

Additionally, claims 11 and 13, as amended, while not identical to claim 6, include features similar to the allowable subject matter of claim 6. Accordingly, Applicants contend that claims 11 and 13 are allowable over Erramilli et al. for at least the same reasons as claim 6 and request that the rejection of claims 11 and 13 be withdrawn. Newly added claims 15 and 16 depend from claims 11 and 13, respectively, and are also allowable for at least the same reasons as claims 11 and 13.

As to claim 10, the Office Action asserts that Erramilli et al. teach or suggest (in Part III, Sec. A, "Three Simple Queuing Experiments") that the claimed digital communications network of claim 8 includes a plurality of transmission nodes, each having a queuing buffer with a predetermined memory size sufficient only to queue data that doesn't exhibit self-similarity. Applicants respectfully disagree with this interpretation of the Erramilli et al. reference. The cited portion of Erramilli et al. relates only to the performance of, and results obtained by running various models of queue delays as a function of network utilization (e.g., curves B and C in Fig. 2), as compared to actual Ethernet traffic traces (e.g., curve A in Fig. 2). Erramilli et al. nowhere disclose, teach, or suggest a "queuing buffer [having] a predetermined memory

size sufficient only to queue data that does not exhibit self-similarity through the network." Therefore, Erramilli does not disclose, teach, or suggest at least this limitation of claim 10. Accordingly, applicants contend that claim 10 is allowable over Erramilli et al. and request that the rejection of claim 10 be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objections to claims 2-7 and 9 and the rejection of claims 10, 11 and 13, and allow newly added claims 15 and 16.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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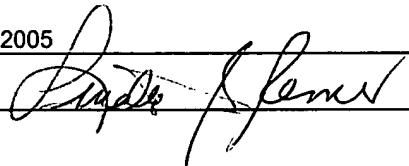
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